Assessment of losses caused to crops in Northern India

2608. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of the losses caused to crops in the northern States due to severe cold conditions and hailstorm during the winter of 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether any Central assistance has been provided to the affected farmers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of agricultural land

2609. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural land restricted to 140 million hectare land across the country could be expanded to an additional 100 million hectares by improving vast stretches of barren and desolate land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of land under each crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per available estimates, the agricultural land/net sown area has been 141.16 million ha. in 2000-01 and 141.60 million ha. in 2005-06 in the country. The total cultivable land in the country is 182.57 million ha in 2005-06, consisting of net sown area (141.60 million ha.), current fallows (14.03 million ha.), fallow lands other than current fallows (10.41 million ha.), cultivable wastelands (13.16 million ha.) and land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves (3.37 million ha.). During the same year, the area put to non-agricultural uses is 24.94 million ha. and barren and uncultivable land are 17.50 million ha. The barren lands cannot be developed economically for agricultural purposes, however it can be utilized for non-agricultural purposes.

Government of India is implementing various programmes namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP and FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP), (vii) Integrated Waste-land Development Project (IWDP) for development of degraded lands in the country. Under the above programmes, since inception upto end of Tenth Five Year Plan, an area of 50.83 million hectare has been developed. Part of such developed land is also brought under cultivation to maintain balance in different type of land uses.

(c) The present status of land under each crop for the year 2000-01 to 2004-05 in the country is enclosed as a Statement.

Statement

Details of present status of land under crop for the year 2000-01 to 2004-05 in the country

(A) Area under crops-All India
(Food grains)

(Thousand Hectares)

Year		Rice	Jowar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi	Wheat	Barley	Other Cereals and Small Millets	Total Cereals and Millets	Gram	Arhar	Other Pulses	Total Pulses	Total Food-Grains
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2000-01		44764	9915	10021	6803	1815	25797	789	1520	101423	5205	3664	12408	21278	122701
2001-02	(p)	44894	9818	9745	6732	1735	26315	631	1326	101245	6426	3334	13305	23064	124300
2002-03	(p)	41317	9341	7934	6785	1488	25273	692	1281	94110	6900	3362	12066	23329	116439
2003-04	(p)	42625	9319	10714	7459	1749	25564	668	1199	100298	7048	3512	13834	24384	124692
2004-05	(p)	42510	9070	9261	7603	1680	26451	626	1098	98173	6593	3497	13463	23669	121837

(B) Area under crops-All India
(Sugarcane, Fruits and Vegetables and Oliseeds)

(Thousand Hectares)

Year	Sugar-cane	Total Condi-Ments and Spices	Total Fruits and Vege-tables	Other Food Crops	Total Food Crops	Ground-Nut	Castor-seed	Sesamum	Rape-seed and Mus-tard	Lin-seed	Coco-nut	Other Oil Seeds	Total Oil Seeds
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2000-01	4577	2808	9162	130	138373	8734	1125	1701	4172	495	1964	8541	24833

1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2001-02	4714	3260	8742	124	141149	6346	807	1822	4798	481	1894	8599	24747
2002-03	4768	3071	8951	123	132352	5013	696	1471	4029	406	1906	8992	23514
2003-04	4373	3151	9055	130	141402	8170	773	1934	5434	477	1913	9547	26254
2004-05	4071	3051	9323	118	138401	6753	772	2144	7039	439	1938	11158	30244

(C) Area under crops-All India
(Fibres, Plantation and other crops)

(Thousand Hectares)

Year	Cotton	Jute	Other Fibres	Total Fibres	Indigo	Opium	Tob-acco	Tea	Coffee	Fodder Crops	Other Non-Food Crops	Total Non-Food Crops	Total Area Under Crops
1	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
2000-01	8582	842	290	9714	4	18	305	585	313	9651	2103	47326	185704
2001-02	9083	887	272	10241	3	18	375	590	316	10265	2043	48598	189747
2002-03	7699	877	253	8838	3	13	397	507	315	7707	2014	43308	175660
2003-04	7642	860	232	8734	4	18	438	515	316	10615	2073	43967	190359
2004-05	9332	813	214	9369	5	11	365	517	318	9644	2048	52510	190911